01-31-06

AFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: SANG MIN LEE

Serial No.: 09/940,210

Group Art Unit: 2674

Title: COMPACT KEYBOARD FOR HANDHELD COMPUTER

Examiner: DUC Q DINH

APPELLANT'S BRIEF

This brief is in furtherance of the Notice of Appeal filed in this case on November 30, 2005. This Brief is being filed in response to an office communication dated 6/30/2005.

The brief is transmitted in triplicate as required under 37 C.F.R. §1.192(a))

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being: Deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelop addressed to Mail Stop Appeal Brief, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 as express Mail Post Office to Addressee Mailing Label NO. EQ 217 80 8809 US

Date: 1/30/06

Signature

02/01/2006 BABRAHA1 00000019 09940210

01 FC:2402 250.00 OP

II. REAL PARTY INTEREST

The real party in interest in this appeal is the party named in the caption of this brief, **SANG MIN LEE.**

III. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

With respect to other appeals or interferences that will directly affect, or be directly affected by, or have a bearing on the Board's decision in this appeal, there are no such appeals or interferences

IV. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Applicant received a first non-final office action in. Applicant amended claims in line with a telephone communication with Examiner 8/28/2001. A year later Applicant received a second non-final office action in 9/2/2004. Applicant amended claims in line a telephone communication with Examiner. Applicant received a final office action on 6/30/2005. The claims presented with the response to the final office action is presented below.

1. (Previously Presented) A handheld computerized device comprising:

   a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;

   an electronic housing having a configuration defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the front edge of the electronic housing being hingedly coupled to the front edge of the support base such that the electronic housing can pivot from a closed position into an open position wherein the bottom surface of the electronic housing is parallel to the bottom surface of the support base;

   a pair of hand support means being securely attached at an ergonomic position along each side edge of the electronic housing, whereby a user's left hand or right

hand or both hands are supported while the user is typing on the keypad;

a means for displaying data overlaying the top surface of the electronic housing; and

a processor situated within the electronic housing, the processor electrically connected to the display means and the keyboard portion whereby data entered at the keypad is transmitted to the processor and displayed by the display means; and

a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;

the first and the second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;

2. (Previously Presented) The device recited in Claim 1, wherein the keypad further comprises:

~~a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;~~

~~the first and the second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;~~

the first section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the left hand; and

the second section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the right hand.

3. (original) The device recited in Claim 1, wherein the display means further comprises:

a display area defined by a top edge, bottom edge, and a pair of side edges;

a front panel surrounding the display area and being defined by a top strip, a bottom strip, and a pair of side strips; and

each edge of the display area lying adjacent to and being securely attached to each corresponding strip of the display area.

4. (Previously Presented) The device recited in Claim 3 wherein the display area is a

Liquid ~~Crystals~~ Crystal Display (LCD).

5. (original) The device recited in Claim 3, wherein the bottom strip and each side strip of the front panel further comprises:

a plurality of additional alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof; and

a means for electrically connecting the plurality of additional alphanumeric keys to the processor whereby each generated character signal is transmitted to the processor.

6. (original) The device recited in Claim 1, further comprising:

a pressure sensitive writing means for allowing data to be inputted via handwriting; and

the pressure sensitive writing means overlapping the bottom edge of the display area.

7. (currently amended) A handheld computerized device comprising:

a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base including a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;

an electronic housing having a configuration with a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the bottom surface of the electronic housing being securely attached to the bottom surface of the keyboard portion in an operable position;

a pair of hand support means being securely attached at an ergonomic position along each side edge of the electronic housing, whereby a user's left hand or right hand or both hands are supported while the user is typing on the keypad;

a means for displaying data overlaying the top surface of the electronic housing; and

a processor situated within the electronic housing, the processor electrically connected to the display means and the keyboard portion whereby the data entered at the keypad is transmitted to the processor and displayed by the display means.

8. (original) The device recited in Claim 7, wherein the keypad further comprises:

a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;

the first and second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;

the first section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the left hand; and

the second section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the right hand.

9. (original) The device recited in Claim 7, wherein the display means further comprises:

a display area defined by a top edge, bottom edge, and a pair of side edges;

a front panel surrounding the display area and being defined by a top strip, a bottom strip, and a pair of side strips; and

each edge of the display area lying adjacent to and being securely attached to each corresponding strip of the display area.

10. (Previously Presented) The device recited in Claim 9 wherein the display area is a Liquid ~~Crystals~~ Crystal Display (LCD).

11. (original) The device recited in Claim 10, wherein the bottom strip and each side strip of the front panel further comprises:

a plurality of additional alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof; and

a means for electrically connecting the plurality of additional alphanumeric keys to the processor whereby each generated character signal is transmitted to the processor.

12. (original) The device recited in Claim 7, further comprising:

a pressure sensitive writing means for allowing data to be inputted via handwriting; and

the pressure sensitive writing means overlapping the bottom edge of the display area.

13. (currently amended) A handheld computerized device comprising:

a sliding bracket having a pair of guide members;

a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base including a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the pair of side edges being adapted to slide into the pair of guide members in an operable state or in a closed state, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;

an electronic housing having a configuration with a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the pair of side edges being integrally coupled to the pair of guide members;

a pair of hand support means being securely attached at an ergonomic position along each side edge of the electronic housing, whereby a user's left hand or right hand or both hands are supported while the user is typing on the keypad;

in the operable state, the side edges of the support base are adapted to slide into the guide members such that the bottom surface of the support base and the bottom surface of the electronic housing are parallel to each other;

in the closed state, the side edges of the support base are adapted to slide into the guide members such that the keypad faces the ~~top~~ bottom surface of the electronic housing

a means for displaying data overlaying the top surface of the electronic housing; and

a processor situated within the electronic housing, the processor electrically connected to the display means and the keyboard portion whereby the data entered at the keypad is transmitted to the processor and displayed by the display means.

14. (original) The device recited in Claim 13, wherein the keypad further comprises:

a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;

the first and second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;

the first section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the left hand; and

the second section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the right hand;

15. (original) The device recited in Claim 13, wherein the display means further comprises:

a display area defined by a top edge, bottom edge, and a pair of side edges;

a front panel surrounding the display area and being defined by a top strip, a bottom strip, and a pair of side strips; and

each edge of the display area lying adjacent to and being securely attached to each corresponding strip of the display area.

16. (Previously Presented) The device recited in Claim 15 wherein the display area is a Liquid ~~Crystals~~ Crystal Display (LCD).

17. (original) The device recited in Claim 15, wherein the bottom strip and each side strip of the front panel further comprises:

a plurality of additional alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof; and

a means for electrically connecting the plurality of additional alphanumeric keys to the processor whereby each generated character signal is transmitted to the processor.

18. (original) The device recited in Claim 13, further comprising:

a pressure sensitive writing means for allowing data to be inputted via handwriting; and

the pressure sensitive writing means overlapping the bottom edge of the display area.

19. (Previously Presented) A handheld computerized device comprising:

a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;

an electronic housing having a configuration defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the front edge of the electronic housing being hingedly coupled to the front edge of the support base such that the electronic housing can pivot from a closed position into an open

position wherein the bottom surface of the electronic housing is parallel to the bottom surface of the support base;

a pair of hand support means being securely attached at an ergonomic position along each side edge of the electronic housing, whereby a user's left hand or right hand or both hands are supported while the user is typing on the keypad.

20. (Previously Presented): The device recited in Claim 19, wherein the keypad further comprises:

a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas,

the first and the second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;

the first section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the left hand; and

the second section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the right hand.

21. (Previously Presented) The device recited in Claim 19 wherein the display means further comprises:

a display area defined by a top edge, bottom edge, and a pair of side edges;

a front panel surrounding the display area and being defined by a top strip, a bottom strip, securely attached to each corresponding strip of the display area.

22. (Previously Presented): The device recited in Claim 21 wherein the display area is a Liquid Crystal Display (LCD).

23. (Previously Presented): The device recited in Claim 21 wherein the bottom strip and each side strip of the front panel further comprises:

a plurality of additional alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof;

a means for electrically connecting the plurality of additional alphanumeric keys to the processor whereby each generated character signal is transmitted to the processor.

24. (Previously Presented) The device recited in Claim 19 further comprising:

a pressure sensitive writing means for allowing data to be inputted via handwriting; and

the pressure sensitive writing means overlapping the bottom edge of the display area.

V. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

In line with the issues presented by the examiner, Applicant amended the specifications as presented below. The arguments of the amendments to the specifications are presented within the issues section below.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATIONS SUBMITTED WITH FINAL OFFICE ACTION.

Please amend

Referring now to FIG. 7, an overall perspective side view of another alternative embodiment of the present invention is seen, a handheld computerized device (700) in an open position. Device (700) can be a Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), Palm Computer or another portable computer with similar architecture. The present invention in no manner is limited by the particular structure, function, logical architecture or compatibility of device (700).

In the illustrated embodiment, device (700) comprises keyboard portion (710) and electronic housing (720). Keyboard portion (710) is depicted having a support base (715) and keypad (725). Support base (715) is depicted having a rectangular configuration with keypad (725) overlaying the top surface (730) of support base (715).

In the illustrated embodiment, device (700) further comprises a sliding bracket (735) having a pair of guide members (736, 737) and a corresponding pair of ribs (746, 747). As shown in the illustrated embodiment, each guide member (736, 737) is composed of a rectangular strip having a groove (738) along its inner horizontal plane. In this kind of embodiment, each side edge (755) of support base (715) is adapted with ribs ~~(736, 737)~~ (746, 747) that is configured to slide into the groove (738) of each corresponding guide member (736, 737). As shown FIG. 7A and FIG. 7B, after the keyboard portion (710) is completely slid into the guide members (736, 737), the keyboard portion (710) is securely held in place.

In the illustrated embodiment, device (700) further comprises electronic housing

(720) having a rectangular configuration with a top surface (740), bottom surface (745) top edge ~~(741)~~ (742), bottom edge ~~(742)~~ (741), and a pair of side edges (743, 744). As illustrated in the embodiment, the pair of side edges (743, 744) of the electronic housing are integrally coupled to the pair of guide members (736, 737). With this alternative embodiment except for the addition of the sliding bracket (735), electronic housing (720) and keyboard portion (710) are structurally equivalent and functionally equivalent to electronic housing (200) and keyboard portion (300) of device (100) shown in FIG 1. Additionally, with this alternative embodiment, the internal schematic diagram illustrated in FIG. 4 for electronic housing (200) is also supported by electronic housing (720).

As shown in FIG. 7C, when device (700) is used, it is placed in an operable position by sliding ribs (746, 747) into guide members (735, 737) with the bottom surface (760) of keyboard portion (710) parallel to the bottom surface (745) of electronic housing (720). Then, a user would place their left or right or both hands in the hand support braces (770, 772) while the user is typing at the keypad (725). After the user is finished using device (700), the keyboard portion (710) is slid into guide members (735, 737) with the keypad (725) facing the bottom surface ~~(765)~~ (745) of electronic housing (720) as shown in FIG. ~~7B~~ 7A. The arrow on drawing 7A illustrates keyboard portion 710 being slid out of guide members (735, 737) with the keypad (725) facing the bottom surface (745) of electronic housing (720). As depicted in 7B, the arrow in FIG. 7B illustrates keyboard portion 710 being slid into guide members (735, 737) with the bottom surface of keyboard portion 710 facing the bottom surface of electronic housing (720).

While only certain embodiments of the invention have been illustrated and described, it is understood that alterations, changes, and modifications may be made without departing from the true scope and spirit of the invention.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the first non-final Office Action, Claim 1 and claim 2 were amended to be in line with Examiner's Comments to put the application in line for allowance. New claims 19-24 were added to capture old claims for further prosecution.

In the second non-final office Action, Claims 7 and 13 were amended to further distinguish from the prior art after a telephone communication with the examiner.

Applicant receives a final non-office action after making amendments.

VI. SUMMARY OF INVENTION

This present invention is a handheld computerized device with an attached compact keyboard. In one embodiment of the present invention, the device consists of a keyboard portion and an electronic portion. The keyboard portion and the electronic housing both have a configuration defined by a top edge, bottom edge, top surface, bottom surface, and a pair of side edges. In this embodiment of the present invention, the top edge of the keyboard portion is hingedly connected to the top edge of the electronic housing. A keypad overlays the top surface of the keyboard portion and a display means overlays the top surface of the electronic housing. A microprocessor is situated inside the electronic housing and is electrically connected to keyboard the portion. The hinge connection between the keyboard portion and the electronic housing allows the keyboard portion to pivot from a closed position into an operable position. When in a closed position the keypad and display means are enclosed in a cavity formed by the closure of the keyboard portion against the electronic housing. To pivot into an operable position, the keyboard portion is pivoted 360 degrees around the longitudinal axis of the electronic housing such that the bottom surface of the keyboard portion becomes parallel to the bottom surface of the electronic housing.

In another embodiment of the present invention, the bottom surface of the keyboard portion is permanently affixed to the bottom surface of the electronic housing. In this embodiment the handheld device is fixed in its operable position.

In yet another embodiment of the present invention, the handheld device consists of a sliding bracket having a pair of guide members integrally coupled to the side edges of the electronic housing. The side edges of the keyboard portion are adapted to slide into the guide members. In this embodiment the handheld device is placed in an operable by sliding the keyboard portion with the bottom surface of the keyboard portion parallel to the bottom surface of the electronic housing.

VII. ISSUES

ISSUE 1: 103 REJECTION OF CLAIM INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1, 7, AND 13

In my final office action response, Applicant reiterated original response per the telephone interview on December 27, 2004 as follows. In his response, Examiner never discussed FIG. 6C of Brandenberg. Per our telephone conversation, Applicant pointed out the significance of FIG. 6C.

Regarding claim 1, Applicant and Examiner agreed that Applicant's claimed invention could be distinguished from Blandenberg. Applicant claims:

> *a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;*
>
> *an electronic housing having a configuration defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the front edge of the electronic housing being hingedly coupled to the front edge of the support base such that the electronic housing can pivot from a closed position into an open position wherein the bottom surface of the electronic housing is parallel to the bottom surface of the support base;*

Blandenberg states:

> *As device 801 transitions to the open state, display portion 803 hingedly pivots relative to body portion 807 as indicated by arrow 809 in FIG. 6B. In the open state, display screen 815 is adjacent to and visible above thumbboard 805. Fig. 6a shows the closed state and Fig. 6B is still in the closed state to show the transition to FIG. 6C.*

As shown in FIG. 6C, the invention in the prior art keyboard is adjacent to the keyboard in an open state. The prior illustrates in FIG. 6A and 6B that bottom surface of the

keyboard and display portion are parallel in a closed state. However, applicant claims the electronic housing having the display and the keyboard portion are parallel in an open state. Thus, the Applicant's invention is distinguished from the prior art. As shown in FIG.'S, 6A, 6B, and 6C, the lower edge of the display is hingedly connected to the top edge of the keyboard housing. As shown in FIG. 1 in the specification, the two top edges are hingedly connected as claimed.

Regarding independent claim 7, claim 7 was amended to claim an alternative embodiment of claim 1, wherein the invention is affixed into an operable position with the bottom surface of electronic housing (620) and keyboard portion (610) in a parallel position. (See Page 8 line 8-16 and FIG. 6)

Regarding independent claim 13, claim 13 was amended to claim an alternative embodiment of claim 1, wherein the invention is slid into an operable position with the bottom surface of electronic housing (720) and keyboard portion (710) in a parallel position. (See Page10 lines 3-5 and FIG. 7C).

ISSUE 2: 112 REJECTION OF CLAIM 13

The specifications do more than just mention operable versus closed state. The Page 9 lines 9-29 through page 10 lines 1-8 discloses the full process. There are some typographical errors between the FIG.'S 7A-7C and the specifications. The disclosure can be amended to matter that is inherently disclosed by the original application. ***(See In re Smyte, 480 F.2d 1376, 178 USPQ 279 (C.C.P.A))*** As a result, applicant has amended the specifications to be in line with the drawings which are part of the original disclosure. Examiner alleges that the specifications fail to convey to one skilled in the art. Applicant

has amended FIG 7A and 7B with labels in line with FIG 7 and FIG. 7C. Applicant has provided FIG. 7C for clarification. The specification was amended as follows (Please note that examiner and applicant discuss these changes in a telephone conversation; these amendments could have been taken care of before final office action response):

- label (746,747) was replaced with 736, 737 to show rib designations. 746, 747 was designated as ribs earlier in the application. This is an obvious error that can be amended.
- labels 741 and 742 were changed because their designation are reversed in the drawings. This is an obvious error that can be amended.
- More designations were added to FIG. 7A and 7B for clarification and to bring them in line with FIG. 7 and 7C. These designations are taken directly from the drawings 7 and 7C which were disclosed in the original disclosure.
- 765 was changed to 745. 745 is depicted as bottom surface of the electronic housing in the specifications and drawings. This is an obvious error for amendment.
- a description of 7A and 7B was added for clarification for examiner. 7B was changed to 7A. 7A is the closed state. This is an obvious error that can be amended in view of the drawings.
- Claim 13 was amended for examiner clarification. As shown in FIG. 7A, in the closed state the keypad (125) faces the bottom surface of the electronic housing which is also stated in the specifications on Page 10, "***After the user is finished using device (700), the keyboard portion (710)***

an obvious holding. The prior art must suggest a desirability to combine prior art references. (See 277 F3d 1338, 61 USPQ2d 1430 (Fed. Cir 2002)).

Here, the examiner tried to use Brandenberg to fit the claim limitations of Applicant. However, Brandenberg does not teach or suggest the configuration as claimed by the applicant. Brandenberg teaches a pivoting of a display into a normal configuration with the display adjacent to the keyboard in an open state. The device in Brandenberg is not hingedly connected as claimed by the Applicant. The hingedly connection between the two top edges facilitates the transitioning of the applicant's device the open state.

Ni illustrates a backside keyboard for a notebook computer or gamebox. Ni is new reference traversed by the examiner. Additionally, the Keyboard in Ni is not Parabolic and is not hingedly connected as claimed by the Applicant.

Ni nor Brandenberg discloses hand grips for supporting the hands while typing on the keyboard when the device is in the open state. In Brandenberg in FIG. 6C, a standard keyboard is shown. Thus hand support means on the side is not required. Label 827 in FIG. 6C designates joysticks. By plain definition joysticks are not used for hand support means. Thus, there is no motivation to combine Ni and Brandenberg. Additionally, it also follows that there is no motivation to combine Makala as well.

Examiner was reminded that Applicant amended independent claims 7 and 13 to further distinguish with the prior art. In view of the above amendments to independent claims 7 and 13 and supporting argument to claim 1, Applicant

respectfully requests that the rejections to the supporting dependent claims be withdrawn.

VIII. APPENDIX OF CLAIMS INVOLVED IN THIS APPEAL

Exhibit 1 – First non-final Office Action amendment

Exhibit 2- second non-final Office Action Amendment

Exhibit 3 – Brandenburg Patent with drawings at issue

Exhibit 4- Pending Application with drawings

Submitted By

Delph. ne James.

Registration NO 45,960

Exhibit 1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :	SANG MIN LEE
Serial No.:	09/940,210
Filed:	08/28/2001
Group Art Unit:	2674
Title:	COMPACT KEYBOARD FOR HANDHELD COMPUTER
Examiner:	Francis Nguyen

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Honorable Sir:

This amendment is filed in response to the office action dated August 28, 2001.

IN THIS CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A handheld computerized device comprising:

a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base; an electronic housing having a configuration defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the front edge of the electronic housing being hingedly coupled to the front edge of the support base such that the electronic housing can pivot from a closed position into an open position wherein the bottom surface of the electronic housing is parallel to the bottom surface of the support base;

a pair of hand support means being securely attached at an ergonomic position along each side edge of the electronic housing, whereby a user's left hand or right hand or both hands

are supported while the user is typing on the keypad;

a means for displaying data overlaying the top surface of the electronic housing; and

a processor situated within the electronic housing, the processor electrically connected to the display means and the keyboard portion whereby data entered at the keypad is transmitted to the processor and displayed by the display means[.];

a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;

the first and the second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;

2. (currently amended): The device recited in Claim 1, wherein the keypad further comprises:

[a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;

the first and the second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;]

the first section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the left hand; and

the second section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the right hand.

3. (original): The device recited in Claim 1, wherein the display means further comprises:

a display area defined by a top edge, bottom edge, and a pair of side edges;

a front panel surrounding the display area and being defined by a top strip, a bottom strip, and a pair of side strips; and each edge of the display area lying adjacent to and being securely attached to each corresponding strip of the display area.

4. (currently amended): The device recited in Claim 3 wherein the display area is a Liquid [Crystals] Crystal Display (LCD).

5. (original): The device recited in Claim 3, wherein the bottom strip and each side strip of the front panel further comprises:

a plurality of additional alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof; and

a means for electrically connecting the plurality of additional alphanumeric keys to the processor whereby each generated character signal is transmitted to the processor.

6. (original): The device recited in Claim 1, further comprising:

a pressure sensitive writing means for allowing data to be inputted via handwriting; and

the pressure sensitive writing means overlapping the bottom edge of the display area.

7. (original): A handheld computerized device comprising:

a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base including a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;

an electronic housing having a configuration with a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the bottom surface of the electronic housing being securely attached to the bottom surface of the keyboard portion;

a pair of hand support means being securely attached at an ergonomic position along each side edge of the electronic housing, whereby a user's left hand or right hand or both hands are supported while the user is typing on the keypad;

a means for displaying data overlaying the top surface of the electronic housing; and

a processor situated within the electronic housing, the processor electrically connected to the display means and the keyboard portion whereby the data entered at the keypad is transmitted to the processor and displayed by the display means.

8. (original): The device recited in Claim 7, wherein the keypad further comprises:

a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;

the first and second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;

the first section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the left hand; and

the second section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the right hand.

9. (original): The device recited in Claim 7, wherein the display means further comprises:

a display area defined by a top edge, bottom edge, and a pair of side edges;

a front panel surrounding the display area and being defined by a top strip, a bottom strip, and a pair of side strips; and

each edge of the display area lying adjacent to and being securely attached to each corresponding strip of the display area.

10. (currently amended): The device recited in Claim 9 wherein the display area is a Liquid [Crystals] Crystal Display (LCD).

11. (original): The device recited in Claim 10, wherein the bottom strip and each side strip of the front panel further comprises:

a plurality of additional alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof; and

a means for electrically connecting the plurality of additional alphanumeric keys to the processor whereby each generated character signal is transmitted to the processor.

12. (original): The device recited in Claim 7, further comprising:

a pressure sensitive writing means for allowing data to be inputted via handwriting; and

the pressure sensitive writing means overlapping the bottom edge of the display area.

13. (original): A handheld computerized device comprising:

a sliding bracket having a pair of guide members;

a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base including a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the pair of side edges being adapted to slide into the pair of guide members, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;

an electronic housing having a configuration with a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the pair of side edges being integrally coupled to the pair of guide members;

a pair of hand support means being securely attached at an ergonomic position along each side edge of the electronic housing, whereby a user's left hand or right hand or both hands are supported while the user is typing on the keypad;

a means for displaying data overlaying the top surface of the electronic housing; and

a processor situated within the electronic housing, the processor electrically connected to the display means and the keyboard portion whereby the data entered at the keypad is transmitted to the processor and displayed by the display means.

14. (original): The device recited in Claim 13, wherein the keypad further comprises:

a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;

the first and second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;

the first section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the left hand; and

the second section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the right hand;

15. (original): The device recited in Claim 13, wherein the display means further comprises:

a display area defined by a top edge, bottom edge, and a pair of side edges;

a front panel surrounding the display area and being defined by a top strip, a bottom strip, and a pair of side strips; and

each edge of the display area lying adjacent to and being securely attached to each corresponding strip of the display area.

16. (currently amended): The device recited in Claim 15 wherein the display area is a Liquid [Crystals] Crystal Display (LCD).

17. (original): The device recited in Claim 15, wherein the bottom strip and each side strip of the front panel further comprises:

a plurality of additional alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof; and

a means for electrically connecting the plurality of additional alphanumeric keys to the processor whereby each generated character signal is transmitted to the processor.

18. (original): The device recited in Claim 13, further comprising:

a pressure sensitive writing means for allowing data to be inputted via handwriting; and

the pressure sensitive writing means overlapping the bottom edge of the display area.

19. (new): A handheld computerized device comprising:

a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;

an electronic housing having a configuration defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the front edge of the electronic housing being hingedly coupled to the front edge of the support base such that the electronic housing can pivot from a closed position into an open position wherein the bottom surface of the electronic housing is parallel to the bottom surface of the support base;

a pair of hand support means being securely attached at an ergonomic position along each side edge of the electronic housing, whereby a user's left hand or right hand or both hands are supported while the user is typing on the keypad; and.

20. (new): The device recited in Claim 19, wherein the keypad further comprises:

a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;

the first and the second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;

the first section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the left hand; and

the second section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the right hand.

21. (new): The device recited in Claim 19, wherein the display means further comprises:

a display area defined by a top edge, bottom edge, and a pair of side edges;

a front panel surrounding the display area and being defined by a top strip, a bottom strip, securely attached to each corresponding strip of the display area.

22. (new): The device recited in Claim 21, wherein the display area is a Liquid Crystal Display (LCD).

23. (new): The device recited in Claim 21, wherein the bottom strip and each side strip of the front panel further comprises:

a plurality of additional alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal

upon depression thereof; and

a means for electrically connecting the plurality of additional alphanumeric keys to the processor whereby each generated character signal is transmitted to the processor.

24. (new): The device recited in Claim 1, further comprising:

a pressure sensitive writing means for allowing data to be inputted via handwriting; and

the pressure sensitive writing means overlapping the bottom edge of the display area.

REMARKS

AMENDMENTS

1. **REGARDING CLAIMS 4, 10, and 16**

   The word **CRYSTALS** is misspelled. The correct interpretation of **LCD** is Liquid Crystal Display. Each claim was corrected accordingly.

2. **REGARDING CLAIMS 1 AND 2**

   Per our telephone interview, in order to place claims 1-6 in a condition for allowance, the first two limitations of claim 2 was moved up into claim 1. The last two claim limitations were remained in claim 2.

ARGUMENTS

3. **REGARDING ORIGINAL CLAIM 1**

Genest discloses a latch and a hook to fasten the two portions of the handheld device together. Fastening means is normally defined as some type of structure that holds two separate structures together such as screw or latch and a hook. The applicant's claim invention discloses a hand support means for supporting the left and right hand while typing on the keypad. When the word "whereby" and its accompanying phrase set forth a structural limitation for the invention recited in the claim, the word "whereby" and the accompanying phrase will be considered a positive limitation of the claim and thereby limit the claim accordingly. (**See** *Scheinman v Zalkind*,112 F.2d 1017, 1019, 46 USPQ 141, 143 (C.C.P.A 1940)). The Genest disclosed fastening means does not provide a structure to for hand support means. Your fingers are required to connect and dislodge the latch and hook. However, technically the fastener does not provide hand support. The applicant describes hand support means as a structure required to support the hands during typing. (**See** Page 8 Lines 23-29 and Page 9 Lines 1-5 in the specifications) The Genest disclosed fastening means is not structurally or functionally equivalent to the disclosed hand support means. Since the Genest disclosed fastening means is not an

equivalent to the applicant's disclosed hand support means structure in the specification, it cannot provide a suggestion or motivation to utilize Genest's latch and hook as a hand support means and achieved the claimed invention. Therefore, in order to reclaim the original claims 1-6 based upon the argument above claims 19-24 are added.

4. REGARDING CLAIM 7

Genest discloses a handheld device with a first portion having a display screen operably connected onto its inner surface and a second portion having a keyboard operably connected onto its inner surface. The first and second portion are hingedly connected such that in an opened position the first and second portion are pivoted to lie adjacent to each other and in a closed position the inner surfaces of each portion are pivoted to face each other. A fastening means, a latch and hook, is disclosed which secures the first and second portion in a closed position.

The claimed invention describes a handheld device with the bottom surfaces of the first and second portion securely attached together. Hand support means are described to support the hands while typing on the keypad.

In order to establish a prima facie case of obviousness the resulting combination or modification must teach or suggest the claimed invention. (**See** *In re Wright*, 848 F. 2d 1216, 6 USPQ 2d 1959,1962 (Fed. Cir. 1988)). It is impermissible to use the claimed invention as an instruction manual or "template" to piece together the teachings of the prior art so that the claimed invention is rendered obvious. The court has previously stated that "one cannot use hindsight reconstruction to pick and choose among isolated disclosures in the prior art to deprecate the claimed invention." (**See** *In re Fritch,* 972 F. 2d 1260, 23 USPQ 2d 1780,1784 (Fed. Cir. 1992)). Here, Genest does not provide a suggestion or motivation to have multiple configurations to practice its disclosed invention. The Levengood decision teaches that an obvious rejection cannot be predicated on the fact that one skilled in the art would have the capabilities to arrive at the claimed invention. (**See** *Ex parte Levengood*, 28 USPQ 2d 1300, (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1993)). The Lindell decision teaches that the Examiner may not use as an element of the obvious rejection that one skilled in the art would have arrived at the invention by trying different alternative structures. (**See** *In re*

Lindell, 385 F. 2d 453, 155 USPQ 521 (C.C.P.A. 1967)). Here, Genest teaches pivoting the first and second portion between an opened and closed position. Genest does not teach or suggest an alternative configuration of affixing the bottom surfaces of the two portions together. Thus, one skilled in the art would have to provide the suggestion of an alternative configuration to obtain the applicant's claimed invention. This argument is impermissible based upon the Levengood and Lindell decision.

The suggestion to combine the references must not require substantial reconstruction or design of the references to arrive at the claimed invention. (**See** *In re Ratti,* 270 F. 2d 810, 123 USPQ 349,1784 (C.C.P.A. 1959)). Here, Genest will have to be significantly redesigned and restructured to obtain the applicant's claimed invention. Furthermore, the alternative configuration of the applicant's claimed invention would render the Genest invention inoperable. It is not generally enough that the prior art suggest the combination recited in the claims; there must also be some reasonable expectation of success of the suggested combination. (**See** *In re Dow Chem. Co.* 837 F. 2d 469, 473 USPQ 2d 1529,1531 (Fed. Cir. 1988)).

Here, Genest teaches away from the applicant's claimed invention. In Genest the first and second portion are pivoted into a closed position protecting the display screen and keypad. Then, the fastening means is utilized to secure the two portions in place and thereby protecting the display screen and keypad. With the applicant's claimed invention the bottom surfaces are secured into an open position by affixing the two bottom surfaces.

Genest discloses a latch and a hook to fasten the two portions of the handheld device together. Fastening means is normally defined as some type of structure that holds two separate structures together such as screw or latch and a hook. The applicant's claim invention discloses a hand support means for supporting the left and right hands while typing on the keypad. When the word "whereby" and its accompanying phrase set forth a structural limitation for the invention recited in the claim, the word "whereby" and the accompanying phrase will be considered a positive limitation of the claim and thereby limit the claim accordingly. (**See** *Scheinman v Zalkind,*112 F.2d 1017, 1019, 46 USPQ 141, 143 (C.C.P.A 1940)). The Genest disclosed fastening means does not provide a structure to for hand support

means. Your fingers are required to connect and dislodge the latch and hook. However, technically the fastener does not provide hand support. The applicant describes hand support means as a structure required to support the hands during typing. (**See** Page 8 Lines 23-29 and Page 9 Lines 1-5 in the specifications) The Genest disclosed fastening means is not structurally or functionally equivalent to the disclosed hand support means in the specification. (**See** 35 USC §112 paragraph 6) Since the Genest disclosed fastening means is not an equivalent to the applicant's disclosed hand support means structure in the specification, it cannot provide a suggestion or motivation to utilize Genest's latch and hook as a hand support means and achieve the claimed invention.

5. REGARDING CLAIM 13

Genest discloses a handheld device with a first portion having a display screen operably connected onto its inner surface and a second portion having a keyboard operably connected onto its inner surface. The first and second portion are hingedly connected such that in an opened position the first and second portion are pivoted to lie adjacent to each other and in a closed position the inner surfaces of each portion are pivoted to face each other. A fastening means, a latch and hook, is disclosed which secures the first and second portion in a closed position. Allgeyer discloses sliding members attached to a disk. Allegeyer does not teach or suggest in a broad sense utilizing guide members on a handheld computer device.

The claimed invention describes a handheld device with a pair of sliding guide members attached to each side edge of the first and second portion. The pair of guide members is utilized to secure the bottom surfaces of the first and second portion in a parallel position. Hand support means are described to support the hands while typing on the keypad.

In order to establish a prima facie case of obviousness the resulting combination or modification must teach or suggest the claimed invention. (**See** *In re Wright*, 848 F. 2d 1216, 6 USPQ 2d 1959,1962 (Fed. Cir. 1988)). It is impermissible to use the claimed invention as an instruction manual or "template" to piece together the teachings of the prior art so that the claimed invention is rendered obvious. This

court has previously stated that "one cannot use hindsight reconstruction to pick and choose among isolated disclosures in the prior art to deprecate the claimed invention. (**See** *In re Fritch,* 972 F. 2d 1260, 23 USPQ 2d 1780,1784 (Fed. Cir. 1992)). Here, Genest does not provide a suggestion or motivation to have multiple configurations to practice its disclosed invention. The Levengood decision teaches that an obvious rejection cannot be predicated on the fact that one skilled in the art would have the capabilities to arrive at the claimed invention. (**See** *Ex parte Levengood,* 28 USPQ 2d 1300, (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1993)). The Lindell decision teaches that the Examiner may not use as an element of the obvious rejection that one skilled in the art would have arrived at the invention by trying different alternative structures. (**See** *In re Lindell,* 385 F. 2d 453, 155 USPQ 521 (C.C.P.A. 1967)). Here, Genest teaches pivoting the first and second portion between an opened and closed position. Genest does not teach or suggest an alternative configuration utilizing guide members to secure the bottom surfaces of the two portions together. Thus, one skilled in the art would have to provide the suggestion of an alternative configuration to obtain the applicant's claimed invention. This argument is impermissible based upon the Levengood and Lindell decision.

The suggestion to combine the references must not require substantial reconstruction or design of the references to arrive at the claimed invention. (**See** *In re Ratti,* 270 F. 2d 810, 123 USPQ 349, 1784 (C.C.P.A. 1959)). Here, Genest will have to be significantly redesigned and restructured to obtain the applicant's claimed invention.

Here, Genest teaches away from the applicant's claimed invention. In Genest, the first and second portion are pivoted into a closed position protecting the display screen and keypad. Then, the fastening means is utilized to secure the two portions in place and thereby protecting the display screen and keypad. With the applicant's claimed invention the bottom surfaces are secured into an open position by guide members attached to the side edges of each portion of the handheld device.

Genest discloses a latch and a hook to fasten the two portions of the handheld device together. Fastening means is normally defined as some type of structure that holds two separate structures together such as screw or latch and a hook. The

applicant's claim invention discloses a hand support means for supporting the left and right hand while typing on the keypad. When the word "whereby" and its accompanying phrase set forth a structural limitation for the invention recited in the claim, the word "whereby" and the accompanying phrase will be considered a positive limitation of the claim and thereby limit the claim accordingly. (**See** *Scheinman v Zalkind*,112 F.2d 1017, 1019, 46 USPQ 141, 143 (C.C.P.A 1940)). The Genest disclosed fastening means does not provide a structure to for hand support means. Your fingers are required to connect and dislodge the latch and hook. However, technically the fastener does not provide hand support. The applicant describes hand support means as a structure required to support the hands during typing. (**See** Page 8 Lines 23-29 and Page 9 Lines 1-5 in the specifications) The Genest disclosed fastening means is not structurally or functionally equivalent to the disclosed hand support means. Since the Genest disclosed fastening means is not an equivalent to the applicant's disclosed hand support means structure in the specification, it cannot provide a suggestion or motivation to utilize Genest's latch and hook as a hand support means and achieved the claimed invention.

Should the Examiner consider necessary or desirable any formal changes anywhere in the specification, claims and/or drawing, then it is respectfully asked that such changes be made by Examiner's Amendment, if the Examiner feels this would facilitate passage of the case to issuance. Alternatively should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted:

Delphine M. James
Registration No. 45,960
Delphine James, Attorney At Law
2656 South Loop West #170

Houston, Texas 77054
(713) 661-4144
(713) 661-4145 (FAX)

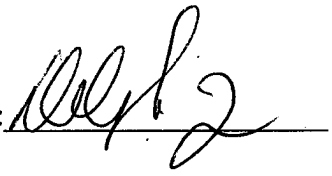
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, **Delphine James**, hereby certify that the foregoing **Amendment** is being deposited on 08/18/03 with the United States Postal Service as U.S. Mail, Express mail, in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner of Patents
Patent Application
Washington DC 20231

Additionally, the foregoing Amendment is being faxed to 703-746-5850.

Express Mail Receipt No._____.

By: 

Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission

TO: Fax Sender at 7136614145

Fax Information
Date Received: 12/29/2004 2:02:13 PM [Eastern Standard Time]
Total Pages: 10 (including cover page)

ADVISORY: This is an automatically generated return receipt confirmation of the facsimile transmission received by the Office. Please check to make sure that the number of pages listed as received in Total Pages above matches what was intended to be sent. Applicants are advised to retain this receipt in the unlikely event that proof of this facsimile transmission is necessary. Applicants are also advised to use the certificate of facsimile transmission procedures set forth in 37 CFR 1.8(a) and (b), 37 CFR 1.6(f). Trademark Applicants, also see the Trademark Manual of Examining Procedure (TMEP) section 306 et seq.

Received Cover Page ========>

12/29/2004 12:56 7136614145 TELEPHONES NIVATAVIC PAGE 01

1555 South Loop West #170
Houston, Texas 77054
Phone: 7 3661 4144
Fax: 713-861-4146

[redacted]

Fax

To:	DUC Q DINH	From:	Delphine James
Fax:	703 872-9314	Date:	December 29, 2004
Phone:		Pages:	11
Re:	09/640,210	CC:	(Click here and type name)

☐ Urgent ☑ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply ☐ Please Recycle

•Comments: Attached is the proposed response.

2656 South Loop West #170
Houston, Texas 77054
Phone: 713-661-4144
Fax: 713-661-4145

[redacted]

Fax

To:	DUC Q DINH	**From:**	Delphine James.
Fax:	703 872-9314	**Date:**	December 29, 2004
Phone:		**Pages:**	11
Re:	09/940,210	**CC:**	[Click here and type name]

☐ **Urgent** ☑ **For Review** ☐ **Please Comment** ☐ **Please Reply** ☐ **Please Recycle**

•Comments: Attached is the proposed response.

Exhibit 2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: SANG MIN LEE

Serial No.: 09/940,210

Group Art Unit: 2674

Title: COMPACT KEYBOARD FOR HANDHELD COMPUTER

Examiner: DUC Q DINH

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Honorable Sir:

This amendment is filed in response to the office action dated 9/2/2004.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A handheld computerized device comprising:

a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;

an electronic housing having a configuration defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the front edge of the electronic housing being hingedly coupled to the front edge of the support base such that the electronic housing can pivot from a closed position into an open position wherein the bottom surface of the electronic housing is parallel to the bottom surface of the support base;

a pair of hand support means being securely attached at an ergonomic position along each side edge of the electronic housing, whereby a user's left hand or right hand or

both hands are supported while the user is typing on the keypad;

a means for displaying data overlaying the top surface of the electronic housing; and

a processor situated within the electronic housing, the processor electrically connected to the display means and the keyboard portion whereby data entered at the keypad is transmitted to the processor and displayed by the display means.

2. (original) The device recited in Claim 1, wherein the keypad further comprises:

a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;

the first and the second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;

the first section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the left hand; and

the second section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the right hand.

3. (original) The device recited in Claim 1, wherein the display means further comprises:

a display area defined by a top edge, bottom edge, and a pair of side edges;

a front panel surrounding the display area and being defined by a top strip, a bottom strip, and a pair of side strips; and

each edge of the display area lying adjacent to and being securely attached to each corresponding strip of the display area.

4. (original) The device recited in Claim 3 wherein the display area is a Liquid Crystals Display (LCD).

5. (original) The device recited in Claim 3, wherein the bottom strip and each side strip of the front panel further comprises:

a plurality of additional alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof; and

a means for electrically connecting the plurality of additional alphanumeric keys to the processor whereby each generated character signal is transmitted to the processor.

6. (original) The device recited in Claim 1, further comprising:

a pressure sensitive writing means for allowing data to be inputted via handwriting;

and

the pressure sensitive writing means overlapping the bottom edge of the display area.

7. (currently amended) A handheld computerized device comprising:

a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base including a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;

an electronic housing having a configuration with a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the bottom surface of the electronic housing being securely attached to the bottom surface of the keyboard portion in an operable position;

a pair of hand support means being securely attached at an ergonomic position along each side edge of the electronic housing, whereby a user's left hand or right hand or both hands are supported while the user is typing on the keypad;

a means for displaying data overlaying the top surface of the electronic housing; and

a processor situated within the electronic housing, the processor electrically connected to the display means and the keyboard portion whereby the data entered at the keypad is transmitted to the processor and displayed by the display means.

8. (original) The device recited in Claim 7, wherein the keypad further comprises:

a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;

the first and second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;

the first section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the left hand; and

the second section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the right hand.

9. (original) The device recited in Claim 7, wherein the display means further comprises:

a display area defined by a top edge, bottom edge, and a pair of side edges;

a front panel surrounding the display area and being defined by a top strip, a bottom strip, and a pair of side strips; and

each edge of the display area lying adjacent to and being securely attached to each corresponding strip of the display area.

10. (original) The device recited in Claim 9 wherein the display area is a Liquid Crystals Display (LCD).

11. (original) The device recited in Claim 10, wherein the bottom strip and each side strip of the front panel further comprises:

a plurality of additional alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof; and

a means for electrically connecting the plurality of additional alphanumeric keys to the processor whereby each generated character signal is transmitted to the processor.

12. (original) The device recited in Claim 7, further comprising:

a pressure sensitive writing means for allowing data to be inputted via handwriting; and

the pressure sensitive writing means overlapping the bottom edge of the display area.

13. (currently amended) A handheld computerized device comprising:

a sliding bracket having a pair of guide members;

a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base including a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the pair of side edges being adapted to slide into the pair of guide members <u>in an operable state or in a closed state</u>, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;

an electronic housing having a configuration with a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the pair of side edges being integrally coupled to the pair of guide members;

a pair of hand support means being securely attached at an ergonomic position along each side edge of the electronic housing, whereby a user's left hand or right hand or both hands are supported while the user is typing on the keypad;

<u>in the operable state, the side edges of the support base are adapted to slide into the guide members such that the bottom surface of the support base and the bottom surface of the electronic housing are parallel to each other;</u>

<u>in the closed state, the side edges of the support base are adapted to slide into the guide members such that the keypad faces the top surface of the electronic housing;</u>

a means for displaying data overlaying the top surface of the electronic housing; and

a processor situated within the electronic housing, the processor electrically connected to the display means and the keyboard portion whereby the data entered at the keypad is transmitted to the processor and displayed by the display means.

14. (original) The device recited in Claim 13, wherein the keypad further comprises:

a first and a second section having a plurality of alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof, each section being in the form of complementary symmetrical or asymmetrical parabolas;

the first and second section lying co-planar vertically parallel along the top surface of the support base of the keyboard portion;

the first section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the left hand; and

the second section of the keypad being arranged in the standard QWERTY keyboard format for the right hand;

15. (original) The device recited in Claim 13, wherein the display means further comprises:

a display area defined by a top edge, bottom edge, and a pair of side edges;

a front panel surrounding the display area and being defined by a top strip, a bottom strip, and a pair of side strips; and

each edge of the display area lying adjacent to and being securely attached to each corresponding strip of the display area.

16. (original) The device recited in Claim 15 wherein the display area is a Liquid Crystals Display (LCD).

17. (original) The device recited in Claim 15, wherein the bottom strip and each side strip of the front panel further comprises:

a plurality of additional alphanumeric keys each adapted to generate a character signal upon depression thereof; and

a means for electrically connecting the plurality of additional alphanumeric keys to the processor whereby each generated character signal is transmitted to the processor.

18. (original) The device recited in Claim 13, further comprising:

a pressure sensitive writing means for allowing data to be inputted via handwriting; and

the pressure sensitive writing means overlapping the bottom edge of the display area.

ARGUMENTS

Per our telephone interview on December 27, 2004, I am filing this response. Regarding claim 1, we agreed that Applicant's claimed invention could be distinguished from Blandenberg. Applicant claims:

> *a keyboard portion having a support base and a keypad, the support base defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the keypad overlaying the top surface of the support base;*
>
> *an electronic housing having a configuration defined by a top surface, a bottom surface, a rear edge, a front edge, and a pair of side edges, the front edge of the electronic housing being hingedly coupled to the front edge of the support base such that the electronic housing can pivot from a closed position into an open position wherein the bottom surface of the electronic housing is parallel to the bottom surface of the support base;*

Blandenberg states:

> *As device 801 transitions to the open state, display portion 803 hingedly pivots relative to body portion 807 as indicated by arrow 809 in FIG. 6B. In the open state, display screen 815 display screen 8154 is adjacent to and visible above thumbboard 805.*

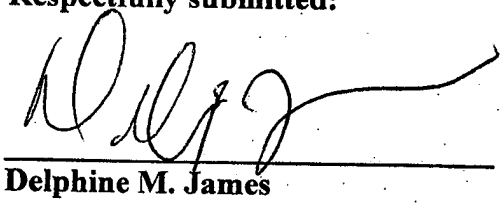
As shown in FIG. 6C which illustrates the open state of the Blandenburg device, the display is adjacent to the keyboard. The prior illustrates in FIG. 6A and 6B that bottom surface of the keyboard and display portion are parallel in a closed state. However, applicant claims the bottom surface of the electronic housing which houses the display and the bottom surface of the keyboard portion are parallel in an open state. Thus, the Applicant's invention is distinguished from the prior art.

Regarding independent claim 7, claim 7 was amended to claim an alternative embodiment of claim 1, wherein the invention is affixed into an operable position with the bottom surface of electronic housing (620) and keyboard portion (610) in a parallel position. (See Page 8 line 8-16 and FIG. 6 of the specification)

Regarding independent claim 13, claim 13 was amended to claim an alternative embodiment of claim 1, wherein the invention is slid into an operable position with the bottom surface of electronic housing (720) and keyboard portion (710) in a parallel position. (See Page10 line 3-5 and FIG. 7C of the specification).

Applicant has amended independent claims 7 and 13 to further distinguish with the prior art. In view of the above amendments to independent claims 7 and 13 and supporting argument to claim 1, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections to the supporting dependent claims be withdrawn. Alternately should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he/she is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted:



Delphine M. James

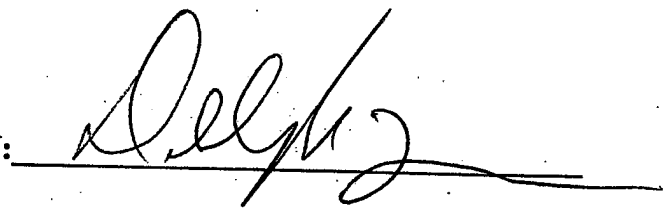
Registration No. 45,960
Delphine M. James, Attorney At Law
2656 South Loop West Suite 170
Houston, TX 77054
(713)-661-4144
(Fax) 713-661-4145

CERTICATE OF MAILING AND FACISIMILE

I, Delphine James, hereby certify that the foregoing Response to the Office Action is being deposited on January 2, 2005 with the United States Postal Service as U.S. Express Mail. Additionally, the foregoing response is also being transmitted by Facsimile to 703-872-9314.

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
PO BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

Express Receipt No. ER 995613249 US

BY: 

Delphine James